United Nations A/CN.9/WG.V/WP.51

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 July 2000

Original:English

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
Working Group on International Contract Practices
Twenty-third session
Vienna, 11 - 22 December 2000

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Draft Convention on Assignment of Receivables in International Trade
4. Other business
5. Adoption of the report

II. Notes on the provisional agenda

1. The Commission, at its thirty-third session (2000), had before it: the draft Convention on Assignment of Receivables in International Trade, as adopted by the Working Group in October 1999 (A/CN.9/466, Annex I); an analytical commentary on the draft Convention prepared by the Secretariat (A/CN.9/470); and comments on the draft Convention made by Governments and international organizations (A/CN.9/472 and Add. 1 to 4).

2. At that session, the Commission adopted draft articles 1 to 17 of the draft Convention with the exception of the bracketed language in those provisions (see A/55/17, para. 180) and, reaffirming its confidence in the Working Group's expertise and efficiency, entrusted the Working Group with the task of: reviewing draft articles 18 to 44 of the draft Convention and draft articles 1 to 7 of the annex to the draft Convention, as well as text that remained in square brackets in draft articles 1 to 17 of the draft Convention; ensuring the coherence and consistency in the text of the draft Convention as a whole in the light of the modifications made by the Commission to draft articles 1 to 17 of the draft Convention; bringing to the attention of the Commission any new policy issues that may be identified by the Working Group in draft articles 1 to 17, as well as making recommendations for the resolution of those issues by the Commission; and making only those changes in the draft Convention that would meet with substantial support (see A/55/17, para. 187). The Commission requested the Working Group to proceed with its work expeditiously so as to finalise the draft Convention and submit it for final adoption by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session in 2001 (see A/55/17, para. 188).

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3. At the same session, the Commission requested the Secretariat to prepare and distribute a revised version of the commentary on the draft Convention after the Working Group has completed its work. The Commission also requested the Secretariat to distribute for comments the text of the draft Convention after the completion of the work of the Working Group to all States and international organizations, including non-governmental organizations that are normally invited to attend meetings of the Commission and its working groups as observers, and to prepare and distribute an analytical compilation of those comments (see A/55/17, para. 191).

4. The Working Group is composed of all States members of the Commission. These are: Algeria, Argentina (alternating annually with Uruguay, starting in 1998), Australia, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lithuania, Mexico, Nigeria, Paraguay, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

5. In addition, States not members of the Commission, as well as invited international organizations, may attend the session of the Working Group as observers and participate in the deliberations.

Item 1. Election of officers

6. The Working Group, in accordance with its practice at previous sessions, may wish to elect a Chairman and a Rapporteur.

Item 3. Draft Convention on Assignment of Receivables in International Trade

7. The Working Group will have before it, and may wish to use as a basis for its considerations, the following documents: the draft Convention on Assignment of Receivables in International Trade, as adopted by the Working Group in October 1999 (A/CN.9/466, Annex I); draft articles 1 to 17 of the draft Convention, as adopted by the Commission in June/July 2000 (A/55/17, Annex I); and an analytical commentary on the draft Convention prepared by the Secretariat (A/CN.9/470). The Working Group will also have before it comments on the draft Convention made by Governments and international organizations (A/CN.9/472 and Addenda 1 to 4).

Item 5. Adoption of the report

8. The Working Group may wish to adopt, at the close of its session, a report for submission to the thirty-fourth session of the Commission, to be held at Vienna from 25 June to 13 July 2001.

Meetings

9. The session of the Working Group will take place from 11 to 22 December 2000 at the Vienna International Centre. There will be 8 working days available for consideration of the draft Convention. No meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, 20 December, in order to allow for the preparation of the draft report of the session, which will be adopted on Friday, 22 December. Meeting hours will be from 9.30 to 12.30 and from 14.00 to 17.00, except on Monday, 11December, when the session will commence at 10.00.